

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH FOR AMBASSADOR ROBERT STRAUSS

1. PER YOUR REQUEST THE FOLLOWING IS AN UPDATED BIOGRAPHICAL
SKETCH FOR AMBASSADOR ROBERT S. STRAUSS.

BEGIN TEXT:

AMBASSADOR ROBERT S. STRAUSS WAS SWORN IN AS THE PRESIDENT'S
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR TRADE NEGOTIATIONS ON MARCH 31.
HE IS THE SIXTH SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE SINCE THE
OFFICE WAS CREATED BY THE U.S. TRADE EXPANSION ACT OF 1962.

AMBASSADOR STRAUSS WAS BORN IN LOCKHART, TEXAS ON OCTOBER
19, 1918. HE WAS RAISED IN STAMFORD, TEXAS, A SMALL WEST
TEXAS COMMUNITY. MR. STRAUSS ATTENDED THE UNIVERSITY OF
TEXAS, RECEIVING AN LLB IN 1941. AFTER SERVING AS A SPECIAL
AGENT OF THE FBI, HE ENTERED PRIVATE LAW PRACTICE ON

JANUARY 19, 1946 AND FOUNDED THE FIRM WHICH BECAME AKIN,
GUMP, STRAUSS, HAUER & FELD WITH OFFICES IN DALLAS, TEXAS
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AND WASHINGTON, D.C.

AMBASSADOR STRAUSS SERVED ON THE TEXAS BANK COMMISSION FROM
1962 UNTIL 1968 AND WAS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF THE VALLEY
VIEW BANK OF DALLAS, TEXAS FOR SIX YEARS. MR. STRAUSS HAS
ALSO TAKEN AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN THE STRAUSS BROADCASTING
COMPANY WHICH OPERATES TWO RADIO STATIONS IN TUSCON,

ARIZONA AND HAS REAL ESTATE INTERESTS.

MR. STRAUSS SERVED AS A DIRECTOR OF XEROX CORPORATION,
BRANIFF AIRLINES, COLUMBIA PICTURES AND WYLAIN CORPORATION.

IN MARCH OF 1970, MR. STRAUSS WAS ELECTED TREASURER OF THE
DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE AND SERVED THROUGH THE 1972
DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION. AFTER THE CONVENTION MR. STRAUSS
SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT A
DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS FOR THE 1972 ELECTIONS.

ON DECEMBER 9, 1972, MR. STRAUSS WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE
DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE. HE SERVED IN THIS CAPACITY
UNTIL JANUARY 21, 1977, AT WHICH TIME, HE RETURNED TO PRI-
VATE PRACTICE OF LAW. IN 1976 HE ALSO SERVED AS CO-CHAIR-
MAN, WITH HAMILTON JORDAN, OF THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL
CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE.

IN COMMUNITY LIFE, MR. STRAUSS HAS BEEN PRESIDENT OF
GOODWILL INDUSTRIES, PRESIDENT OF THE VISITING NURSES
ASSOCIATION, PRESIDENT OF CONGREGATION EMANUEL, VICE PRESI-
DENT OF THE JEWISH WELFARE FEDERATION, DIRECTOR OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL, DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
FOUNDATION, DIRECTOR OF RED CROSS AND NUMEROUS OTHER
BUSINESSES AND CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS.

MR. STRAUSS IS MARRIED, THE FATHER OF THREE GROWN CHILDREN
AND HAS SIX GRANDCHILDREN.

END TEXT.

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